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## Dan Carpenter papers 6933410

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Carpenter, Dan
<b>Creator:</b>	Moske, James
<b>Creator:</b>	LaGuardia Community College. LaGuardia and Wagner Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Dan Carpenter papers
<b>ID:</b>	6933410
<b>ID:</b>	MS#1467
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1880-1993
<b>Physical Description:</b>	6.5 linear feet 2 flat boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Herschel Daniel "Dan" Carpenter Papers document Carpenter's life and career from his boyhood and education in rural Ohio, to his leadership role in the New York City settlement house movement. The collection also documents Hudson Guild, a West Side settlement house from its origins in the 1890s, when it organized clubs for Chelsea boys, to its work a century later, when it provided a wide range of social services to West Side residents.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Dan Carpenetr papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Herschel Daniel "Dan" Carpenter was born March 28, 1908 in the farm community of Attica, Ohio. He attended local public schools and then matriculated at Denison University in Granville, Ohio, where he was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1931. Later that year he

moved to New York City and took a job as a boys' group counselor at Hudson Guild, a West Side settlement house established in 1895 by Ethical Culture Society leader John Lovejoy Elliott. Elliott viewed Hudson Guild's mission as an effort "to get the people of the district themselves to be the social workers and the regenerators of their own neighborhood.. The purpose of the Guild is to bring about active co-operation between different individuals and different classes for a single aim -- that aim being an attempt to learn how to live in a city." Towards this end the settlement sponsored such activities as social clubs, health clinics, summer camping, arts education and vocational training. Hudson Guild promoted the democratic participation of its members in running the settlement through a "Clubs Council" that determined many institutional policies and programs, and also provided a forum for public debate of political issues. Carpenter worked enthusiastically at Hudson Guild and developed a strong professional relationship with Elliott. This bond was strengthened when in 1932 he married Elliott's niece, Marjorie Elliott.

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## Biographical / Historical

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In London, a similar increase in social problems led reformers in 1884 to establish the first settlement house, Toynbee Hall. The settlement model, originally distinguished by a commitment on the part of its college-educated volunteers to "settle" in working class communities in order to confront their problems first-hand and to contribute to the moral uplift of their neighbors, was quickly imported to the United States. In 1886 Stanton Coit, a devotee of Felix Adler's Ethical Culture movement and early observer of the experiment at Toynbee Hall, founded The Neighborhood Guild (later renamed University Settlement) on Manhattan's Lower East Side. Over the next several decades settlement houses were established in cities across the country, staffed largely by recent college graduates, many of them young women eager to take an active role in public life. American settlements sponsored such programs as kindergartens, day care, social clubs, health clinics, visiting nurses, summer camps, arts education and vocational training. They served as observation posts for sociologists, journalists, and other researchers of urban conditions. Many settlements provided forums for public debate of political issues, and galvanized popular opinion in support of progressive social legislation.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Carpenter complemented his work experience with graduate and professional training, receiving a certificate from the National Recreation School in 1932, and a Master of Arts degree from the New York University School of Education the following year. His

responsibilities at Hudson Guild increased steadily as the hard times of the 1930s depression continued. He took primary responsibility for the settlement's participation in the Chelsea Recreation Committee, a community organization which pressured city government for the construction and upkeep of parks, playgrounds and athletic facilities. Carpenter closely observed Elliott's success in organizing the Chelsea Association for Planning and Action, which galvanized community support for public housing construction on the West Side. Work on what would eventually be called "Elliott Houses" was begun just prior to Elliott's death in 1943. Soon after, Dan Carpenter was appointed the second Head Worker (the title was later changed to Executive Director) of Hudson Guild. Under his leadership during the war years Hudson Guild hosted USO activities, sponsored social programs for Coast Guard men encamped in the open field created by the temporarily halted public housing construction, cultivated food in "Victory Gardens" at its New Jersey camp facility, and initiated a veterans consultation service to help returning servicemen adjust to life at home. With the opening of Elliott Houses in 1947, Hudson Guild sharpened its focus to meet the needs of a changing Chelsea population. New programs for senior citizens were created, as well as a child care center and a mental health clinic. During the 1950s New York's Puerto Rican population increased dramatically, and many thousands of these new immigrants settled on the west side. Carpenter traveled to Puerto Rico to learn about the culture of the settlement's new neighbors. He added Spanish speakers to the settlement staff, and instituted English language instruction.

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## Biographical / Historical

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One frustrating episode in this period was a collaboration with the controversial, pugnacious community organizer Saul Alinsky. The Chelsea Citizen Participation Project, co-sponsored by Hudson Guild and Alinsky's Industrial Areas Foundation, succeeded in convening a "Chelsea Community Council" comprised of representatives from dozens of local organizations eager to participate in the planning of additional urban renewal and social service activities for the neighborhood. Unfortunately, disagreements arose among members regarding the Council's internal organization and policies, and an acrimonious public debate culminated in the dissolution of the Council in 1960. Despite this setback, Hudson Guild continued to work for low and middle-income housing in Chelsea, supporting the International Ladies Garment Workers Union-sponsored Penn Station South Cooperatives, and collaborating with the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) in the development of community centers at its Fulton Houses and Chelsea Houses projects. This collaboration led to the replacement of the old Hudson Guild building with a facility in the bottom floors of NYCHA's Chelsea Houses Extension. Opened in 1968, the new Hudson Guild included a gymnasium, theater, and art gallery.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Dan Carpenter retired from Hudson Guild in 1973. He later served as President and Executive of PACT (Provide Addict Care Today), a coalition of labor and business organizations advocating job placement for recovered drug addicts. He continued to live in Chelsea into the 1990s.

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## Summary

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The Dan Carpenter Papers document Carpenter's life and career from his boyhood and education in rural Ohio, to his leadership role in the New York City settlement house movement. They offer a unique view of the full career of a professional social worker and influential figure in the Chelsea community, as well as documenting social conditions, demographic change and political activity in New York. In addition, they provide important insight into the life and work of Carpenter's mentor John Lovejoy Elliott.

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## Summary

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Carpenter's childhood and early education are best documented by photographs and scrapbooks contained in Series 4 and 5, and by records of his public schooling and attendance at Denison University in Series 1. Correspondence contained in Series 2 provides the most comprehensive view of Carpenter's long career as a social worker and settlement house leader. The impact of Hudson Guild programs on the Chelsea community is documented in Series 1 files on "Chelsea Community Council" "Housing and Urban Renewal" and "Puerto Rican Migration." Papers and speeches in Series 3 demonstrate Carpenter's energetic participation in his professional community, as well as his involvement in numerous Chelsea neighborhood organizations.

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## Summary

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Correspondence contained in Series 6 sheds light on the origins of Hudson Guild, and the philosophy and motivation of its founder. Letters by John Lovejoy Elliott to his mother describe his first years in Chelsea, and his early successes and frustrations in establishing Hudson Guild. The series also contains correspondence and biographical information on other members of the Elliott family.

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## Summary

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Additional archival materials related to the Dan Carpenter Papers are included in the Hudson Guild Records, as well as in the archival collections of the Ethical Culture Society.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged in six series.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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Butler Library, 6th Floor  
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127  
535 W. 114th St.  
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### **Revision Description**

File created. xml document instance created by Patrick Lawlor xml document instance edited by Carrie Hintz EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2009-03-05 2008-11-14 2009-05-22 2019-05-20

### **Processing Information**

Finding aid prepared by James Moske of LaGuardia and Wagner Archives of LaGuardia Community College, the City University of New York for Special Collections, Milbank Memorial Library, Teachers College, Columbia University

### **Restrictions on Access**

Series I Folder 24 is closed until 2030.

### **Restrictions on Access**

This collection is located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

### **Terms Governing Use and Reproduction**

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### **Immediate Source of Acquisition**

Source of acquisition--Teachers College. Method of acquisition--Transfer; Date of acquisition--June 2007.

### **Processing Information**

Records processed, James Moske of LaGuardia and Wagner Archives December 1996.

### **Processing Information**

Collection is processed to folder level.



## Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact [rbml@columbia.edu](mailto:rbml@columbia.edu) for more information.

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## Related Materials

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### Related Material

Additional archival materials related to the Dan Carpenter Papers are included in the [Hudson Guild Records](#), as well as in the archival collections of the Ethical Culture Society.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Child welfare workers
- Community-based social services
- Community centers -- New York (State) -- New York
- Human services -- New York (State) -- New York
- Social advocacy
- Social settlements -- New York (State) -- New York
- Social service -- New York (State) -- New York
- Social workers
- Vocational education
- Public welfare -- New York (State) -- New York
- New York (N.Y.) -- History
- New York (N.Y.) -- Social conditions
- Administrative records
- Announcements
- Annual reports
- Articles of incorporation
- Brochures
- Budgets
- Bylaws (administrative records)
- Calendars (documents)
- Certificates
- Financial records

- Fliers (printed matter)
- Legal documents
- Lists (document genres)
- Memorandums
- minutes (administrative records)
- Photographs
- Reports
- Carpenter, Dan
- Hudson Guild (New York, N.Y.)

## Collection Inventory

### Series I: Alphabetical File

#### Scope and Contents

Includes correspondence and memos, community organization files, diplomas, news clippings, papers and speeches. Folders arranged alphabetically. Documents arranged chronologically. Folder 24 contains confidential group work case notes and is closed until 2030.

Title/Description	Instances	
Saul Alinsky -Reference Material, 1944-1964	box 8	folder 1
Saul Alinsky -Reference Material, 1965-1972, 1993, 1965-1972, 1993	box 8	folder 2
Awards, 1952-1974	box 1	folder 3
Biographical Information, 1960-1973	box 8	folder 4
Chelsea Association for Planning and Action, 1939-1942	box 1	folder 5
Chelsea Community Council, 1955-1959	box 8	folder 6
Chelsea Community Council, 1960-1963	box 1	folder 7
Chelsea Community Council, 1964-1965	box 1	folder F 8
Chelsea Park Opening, 1940	box 1	folder 9
Chelsea Recreation Committee, 1934-1935	box 1	folder 10
Chelsea Recreation Committee, 1936-1937	box 1	folder 11
Chelsea Recreation Committee, 1938-1939	box 1	folder 12
Church Information, 1965-1966	box 1	folder 13
Citizens' Union, 1962	box 1	folder 14
Community Control, 1968-1973	box 8	folder 15
Community Council of Greater New York, 1966	box 1	folder 16
Denison University, 1931-1936		

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	box 8	folder 17
Denison University, 1956-1973	box 1	folder 18
Education and Services for Children, 1962-1967	box 1	folder 19
Encampment for Citizenship, 1963	box 2	folder 20
Fulton Street Property, 1962-1970	box 8	folder 21
Group Enrollment, 1946-1947	box 2	folder 22
Group Work Education, 1946-1949	box 8	folder 23
Group Work Reports, 1946-1947	box 16	folder 24
<u>Conditions Governing Access:</u>		
<b>Conditions Governing Access</b>		
[restricted until 2030]		
Housing and Urban Renewal, 1944-1958	box 8	folder 25
Housing and Urban Renewal, 1959	box 9	folder 26
Housing and Urban Renewal, nd	box 9	folder 27
Housing and Urban Renewal -Census Data, 1930s-1950s	box 9	folder 28
Housing and Urban Renewal -Maps and Plans, 1930s-1950s ., 1930s-1950s	box 9	folder 29
Housing and Urban Renewal -Reference Material, 1944-1959	box 2	folder 30
Housing and Urban Renewal -Reference Material, 1962-1969	box 2	folder 31
Intergroup Relations, 1951-1958	box 2	folder 32
Juvenile Delinquency, 1954-1955	box 2	folder 33
Mobilization for Youth, 1964	box 2	folder 34
National Association of Social Workers, 1958-1965	box 2	folder 35
National Federation of Settlements, 1932-1968	box 2	folder 36
National Recreation School, 1931-1932, 1973, 1931-1932, 1973	box 3	folder 37
National Recreation School- Diploma, 1932	box 15	folder 38
New York City Planning Commission -Community Planning Handbook, 1973	box 3	folder 39
New York School of Printing, 1952	box 3	folder 40
New York University -Center for Human Relations and Community Studies,, 1959-1960	box 3	folder 41
New York University -School of Education Diploma, 1933	box 15	folder 42

News Clippings (Photocopies):		
Child Day Care, 1937-1967 nd, 1937-1967	box 3	folder 43
Miscellaneous, 1932-1974	box 3	folder 44
Puerto Rican Immigration, 1951-1959	box 3	folder 45
News Clippings (Originals of photocopies in Folders 43-45) .	box 15	folder 46
Printers' League of New York, 1946-1956	box 3	folder 47
Puerto Rican Immigration, 1951-1958 ., 1951-1958	box 9	folder 48
Rotary Club, 1974	box 3	folder 49
Seneca Centaur Club, 1946	box 9	folder 50
Seneca County Public Schools, 1914-1918	box 3	folder 51
State of Ohio Teaching Certificate, 1931	box 3	folder 52
Testimonial Dinner, 1960	box 3	folder 53
United Housing Foundation, 1957-1971	box 3	folder 54
United Neighborhood Houses, 1968-1974	box 4	folder 55
Welfare Issues, 1970-1971	box 9	folder 56
West Side Association of Cornmerce, 1958-1962	box 4	folder 57
West Side Award, 1956-1958	box 4	folder 58
Willard High School, 1924-1926	box 9	folder 59

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## Series II: Correspondence

### Scope and Contents

Incoming and outgoing letters, memos and attachments. Arranged chronologically. Folders 1 and 2 contain confidential information and are closed until 2015.

Title/Description	Instances	
Michael Clancy, 1933-1948	box 16	folder 1
Michael Clancy, 1933-1948	box 16	folder 2
General, 1933-1948	box 10	folder 3
General, 1951-1955	box 10	folder 4
General, 1956	box 10	folder 5
General, 1957-1958	box 10	folder 6
General, 1959-1960	box 10	folder 7

General, 1961	box 10	folder 8
General, 1962-1964	box 10	folder 9
General, 1965	box 10	folder 10
General, 1966-1974 nd, 1966-1974	box 10	folder 11

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### Series III: Papers and Speeches

#### Scope and Contents

Includes drafts and final copies of articles written by Dan carpenter and published by such organizations as the Ethical Culture Society and National Federation of Settlements; also notes, drafts and texts of speeches delivered before Hudson Guild staff meetings, Chelsea community organizations, and professional gatherings. Folders and documents arranged chronologically.

Title/Description	Instances	
Papers and Speeches, 1934-1952	box 11	folder 1
Papers and Speeches, 1953	box 11	folder 2
Papers and Speeches, 1954	box 11	folder 3
Papers and Speeches, 1955	box 11	folder 4
Papers and Speeches, 1956	box 11	folder 5
Papers and Speeches, 1957	box 11	folder 6
Papers and Speeches, 1958	box 12	folder 7
Papers and Speeches, 1959	box 12	folder 8
Papers and Speeches, 1960-1961	box 12	folder 9
Papers and Speeches, 1962	box 12	folder 10
Papers and Speeches, 1963-1964	box 12	folder 11
Papers and Speeches, 1965-1972	box 12	folder 12
Papers and Speeches, nd	box 12	folder 13

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### Series IV: Photographs

Title/Description	Instances	
Dan Carpenter -Portraits, ca., 1940-1973	box Flat	folder 27282-27300

**Scope and Contents**

Black and white photoprints of Dan Carpenter, his family and associates.

Dan Carpenter -Special Events, ca., 1935-1973	box Flat	folder 27301-27333
Meyers Family, ca., 1900	box Flat	folder 27334
Unidentified Children, ca., 1910s	box Flat	folder 27335-27351
Unidentified House, ca., 1910s	box Flat	folder 27352-27362
Unidentified Women, ca., 1910s-1970s	box Flat	folder 27363-27369
Fraternity Portrait, ca., 1931	box Flat	folder 27370
Group Portrait Including Dan Carpenter, ca., 1930	box Flat	folder 27371
Willard High School Basketball Team, 1924-1925	box Flat	folder 27372
Willard High School Football Team, ca., 1925	box Flat	folder 27373

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**Series V: Scrapbooks and Calendars****Scope and Contents**

Scrapbooks contain birthday cards, black and white photoprints, award information, and "This Is Your Life" timeline. Desk and pocket calendars note meetings and appointments. Arranged chronologically.

<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
Postcard Scrapbook, 1909-1912	box 5	folder 1
Postcard Scrapbook, 1909-1918	box 5	folder 2
"This Is Your Life," 1956	box 5	folder 3
Testimonial Dinner, 1960	box 5	folder 4
Desk Calendars, 1968-1972	box 15	folder 5
Pocket Calendars, 1939-1972	box 14	

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## Series VI: Elliott Family Papers

### Scope and Contents

Addresses and writings, correspondence, genealogical information, legal documents, news clippings, publications, and obituaries of Dr. John Lovejoy Elliott and other members of the Elliott family. Folders arranged alphabetically. Documents arranged chronologically.

Title/Description	Instances	
Isaac H. Elliott, 1901-1923	box 6	folder 1
John Lovejoy Elliott -		
Addresses and Writings, ca., 1880	box 6	folder 2
Addresses and Writings, ca., 1886	box 6	folder 3
Addresses and Writings, ca., 1908	box 6	folder 4
Addresses and Writings, The Century, 1924-1925	box 6	folder 5
Addresses and Writings, The Standard, 1920s-1930s	box 6	folder 6
Addresses and Writings, "The Settlements of New York and Mr. Reynolds," 1927	box 6	folder 7
Addresses and Writings, 1948	box 6	folder 8
Birthday, 1938	box 6	folder 9
Birthday Dinner-Dance, 1941	box 6	folder 10
Correspondence, 1888-1899	box 6	folder 11
Correspondence, 1900	box 6	folder 12
Correspondence, 1911-1912	box 6	folder 13
Correspondence, 1916-1940 nd, 1916-1940	box 6	folder 14
Henry Dreyfuss Booklet, 1922	box 6	folder 15
Obituary and Memorials, 1942-1972	box 13	folder 16
Richard S. Elliott Estate, 1941-1949	box 13	folder 17
Richard S. Elliott Estate, 1953-1962	box 13	folder 18
Walter W. Elliott, 1948-1950	box 13	folder 19
Walter W. Elliott Memorial Committee, 1949-1956	box 13	folder 20
Ethical Culture Society -The Standard, 1920s-1940s ., 1920s-1940s	box 7	folder 21
Charles P. Lovejoy, 1914	box 7	folder 22
Elijah P. Lovejoy, 1897	box 7	folder 23
Owen Lovejoy, nd	box 7	folder 24

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<b>Name and Subject Index</b>	
<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>
Adler, Felix: Series 6, Folders 11-14, 21	box 7
Alinsky, Saul: Series 1, Folders 1-2,7-8	box 7
Black, Algernon: Series 6, Folder 20	box 7
Cohen, Julius Henry: Series 6 14	box 7
Coit, Stanton: Series 6, Folder 12	box 7
Dewey, John: Series 6, Folder 14	box 7
Lehman, Herbert H. : Series 2, Folder 3	box 7
Moses, Robert: Series 2, Folder 3	box 7
Roosevelt, Eleanor: Series 2, Folder 3	box 7
Wagner, Robert : Series 2, Folder 8	box 7

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